



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98101

JUL 01 1996

Reply To  
Attn Of: ECL-117

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Delete Bonneville Power  
Administration/Ross Complex from the National  
Priorities List

FROM: Michael F. Gearheard, Associate Director  
Environmental Cleanup Office *Carmine Krueger*

TO: Chuck Clarke  
Regional Administrator

Attached for your signature is the Notice of Intent to Delete (NOID) the Bonneville Power Administration/Ross Complex (BPA) from the National Priorities List (NPL). The BPA/Ross Complex consists of a 235-acre tract in Clark County on the eastern side of U.S. Highway 99. The site is an active facility that has been owned and operated by the BPA since 1939 to coordinate the distribution of hydroelectric power generated by the Federal Columbia River Power System to regions throughout the Pacific Northwest. As a result of the listing, and pursuant to a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) signed by BPA, EPA and the Washington Department of Ecology on May 1, 1990, BPA conducted a removal action in 1990-1995 due to the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), Trichloroethane (TCA), Dichloroethene (DCE) in the groundwater, PCBs in surface soils.

EPA believes that the remedial actions taken at this site are protective of human health and the environment and no further remedial action under CERCLA is warranted. However, the Record of Decision requires institutional controls for subsurface soils as well as groundwater monitoring at several on-site wells to verify that groundwater conditions remain adequately protective. The site will be subject to periodic five year reviews.

The Washington State Department of Ecology has concurred on the proposed deletion of the BPA site. EPA HQ has also reviewed and concurred on the proposed site deletion.

If you have any questions, please contact me at X7151.

Attachment

AR 2.2

49166  
USEPA SF



1038456

CONCURRENCE

INITIAL	<i>ms</i>	<i>ms</i>	<i>ck</i>		
NAME	Sibley	Harney	Krueger	Gearheard	Clark
DATE	6/18/96	6/18/96	6/19/96		

40 CFR Part 300

[FRL- - ]

National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan;  
National Priorities List

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

Action: Notice of Intent to Delete Bonneville Power Administration  
(BPA)/Ross Complex from the National Priorities List: Request for  
Comments.

-----  
SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10  
announces its intent to delete the Bonneville Power Administration  
(BPA)/Ross Complex site from the National Priorities List (NPL) and  
requests public comment on this action. The NPL constitutes  
Appendix B to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution  
Contingency Plan (NCP), which EPA promulgated pursuant to Section  
105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and  
Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, 42 U.S.C. Section 9805, as amended  
by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Public  
law Number 99-400 (CERCLA).



EPA has determined, and Washington State's Department of Ecology (Ecology) has concurred, that the BPA/Ross Complex site poses no significant threat to public health or the environment and, therefore, further remedial measures are not appropriate.

DATES: EPA will accept comments on this proposed deletion for thirty days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register. Comments concerning this site may be submitted on or before [Insert date 30 days from publication of this Notice in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Nancy Harney, U.S. EPA Region 10, Mail Stop: ECL-111, 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101.

Comprehensive information on this site is available through the Region 10 Deletion Docket, which is located at EPA's Region 10 office and is available for viewing by appointment only from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Appointments for copies of the background information from the Regional public docket should be directed to the EPA Region 10 docket office at the following address:

Lynn Williams, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Environmental Cleanup Office, ECL-110, Superfund Records Center, 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101.

The Deletion Docket is also available for viewing at the following locations:

BPA/Ross Complex

5411 NE Highway 99, Plant Services Building, 2nd Floor

Vancouver, Washington

Vancouver Regional Library, 1007 East Mill Plain Boulevard,

Vancouver, Washington

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Harney, U.S. EPA Region 10,  
Mail Stop: ECL-111, 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101,  
(206) 553-6635.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. NPL Deletion Criteria
- III. Deletion Procedures
- IV. Basis of Intended Site Deletion

I. Introduction

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 announces its intent to delete the BPA/Ross Complex site from the National Priorities List (NPL), which constitutes Appendix B of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan ("NCP"), 40 CFR Part 300, and requests comments on this proposed deletion. EPA identifies sites on the NPL that appear to present a significant risk to human health or the environment and maintains the NPL as the list of these sites. EPA may delete a site from the NPL if it determines that no further response is required to protect human health and the environment. As described in Section 300.425(e)(3) of the NCP, sites deleted from the NPL remain eligible for remedial actions in the unlikely event that conditions at the site are later found to warrant such actions.

EPA will accept comments on the proposal to delete this site for thirty days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register.



Section II of this notice explains the criteria for deleting sites from the NPL. Section III discusses the procedures that EPA is using for this action. Section IV discusses the BPA/Ross Complex site and explains how the site meets the deletion criteria.

## II. NPL Deletion Criteria

The NCP establishes the criteria that the Agency uses to delete sites from the NPL. In accordance with Section 300.425(e) of the NCP, 40 CFR 300.425(e), sites may be deleted from the NPL where no further response is appropriate. In making a determination to delete a release from the NPL, EPA shall consider, in consultation with the state, whether any of the following criteria have been met:

(i) Responsible parties or other parties have implemented all appropriate response actions required;

(ii) All appropriate response under CERCLA has been implemented, and no further action by responsible parties is appropriate, or

(iii) The remedial investigation has shown that the release poses no significant threat to public health or the environment and, therefore, taking of remedial measures is not appropriate.

It is EPA's policy that even if a site is deleted from the

NPL, where hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remain at the site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure, a subsequent review of the site will be conducted at least every five years after the initiation of the remedial action at the site to ensure that the site remains protective of public health and the environment. In the case of this site, the selected remedies are protective of human health and the environment. Consistent with Section XIX of the BPA/Ross Complex Federal Facility Agreement (FFA), BPA will conduct a five-year review of these final remedies. If new information becomes available which indicates a need for further action, EPA may initiate remedial actions. Whenever there is a significant release from a site deleted from the NPL, the site may be restored to the NPL without the application of the Hazard Ranking System.

### III. Deletion Procedures

The following procedures were used for the intended deletion of this site: (1) All appropriate response under CERCLA has been implemented and no further action by BPA is appropriate; (2) Ecology has concurred with the proposed deletion decision; (3) a notice has been published in the local newspapers and has been distributed to appropriate federal, state and local officials and other interested parties announcing the commencement of a 30-day public comment period on EPA's Notice of Intent to Delete,



and (4) all relevant documents have been made available in the local site information repositories.

Deletion of the site from the NPL does not itself create, alter, or revoke any individual rights or obligations. The NPL is designed primarily for informational purposes and to assist Agency management. As mentioned in Section II of this Notice, 40 CFR Section 300.425 (e)(3) states that deletion of a site from the NPL does not preclude eligibility for future response actions.

For deletion of this site, EPA's Regional Office will accept and evaluate public comments on EPA's Notice of Intent to Delete before making a final decision to delete. The Agency will prepare a Responsiveness Summary if significant public comments are offered.

A deletion occurs when the Regional Administrator places a final notice in the Federal Register. Generally, the NPL will reflect deletions in the final update following the Notice. Public notices and copies of the Responsiveness Summary will be made available to local residents by the Regional office.

#### IV. Basis for Intended Site Deletion

The following site summary provides the Agency's rationale for the proposal to delete this site from the NPL:

The BPA/Ross Complex consists of a 235-acre tract in Clark County on the eastern side of U.S. Highway 99. The site is an active facility that has been owned and operated by the BPA since 1939 to coordinate the distribution of hydroelectric power generated by the Federal Columbia River Power System to regions throughout the Pacific Northwest. Since its construction, the site has provided research and testing facilities, maintenance and construction operations, and waste storage and handling operations for BPA.

In November 1989 the EPA placed the BPA/Ross Complex on the NPL, making it a Superfund site subject to the requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The listing was based on the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), Trichloroethane (TCA), Dichloroethene (DCE) in groundwater, PCBs in surface soils, and the Ross Complex's proximity to the City of Vancouver's drinking water supply. As a result of the listing, and pursuant to a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) signed by BPA, EPA and the Washington Department of Ecology on May 1, 1990, BPA conducted a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Ross Complex and to evaluate alternatives for cleanup of contaminated areas.

To facilitate the Superfund investigation process, the site was divided into two separate Operable Units (OUs), (OUA and OUB).



The OUA investigation focused on surface soil contamination. Of the 21 waste units evaluated as part of the RI, the OUA Record of Decision (ROD) signed on May 6, 1993, required remedial action for only 3 areas. A total of 2,544 tons of contaminated soil was excavated and disposed at an approved off-site landfill in Arlington, Oregon. PCB-contaminated concrete footings and debris were also removed and disposed offsite. Soils in the Wood Pole Storage Area East were treated by enhanced bioremediation and then covered by a cap of clean gravel.

The OUB RI focused on characterization of subsurface soils in two waste units and also included characterization of the shallow perched water table, the deep groundwater aquifer beneath the Ross Complex, and surface water and sediments in Cold Creek and Burnt Bridge Creek. Perched water tables and the deep aquifer beneath the Ross Complex were tested for a wide range of potential contaminants including VOC's, pesticides, herbicides, metals, base neutral acids, PCB's, phenols, phthalates and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's). Based on the findings of the RI, the OUB ROD signed on September 29, 1993, required installation of a multi-layered permanent cap at the Fog Chamber Dump Trench Area 1. Remedial action was not required for groundwater, surface water or sediments.

EPA believes that the remedial actions taken at this site are protective of human health and the environment and no further



remedial action under CERCLA is warranted. However, the OUB ROD requires institutional controls for subsurface soils as well as groundwater monitoring at several on-site wells to verify that groundwater conditions remain adequately protective.

As previously stated, one of the three criteria for deletion specifies that EPA may delete a site from the NPL if "all appropriate response under CERCLA has been implemented, and no further action by responsible parties is appropriate." EPA, with concurrence of Ecology, believes that this criterion for deletion has been met. Therefore, EPA is proposing deletion of the BPA/Ross Complex site from the NPL. Documents supporting this action are available at the designated information repositories.

6/20/96  
Date

Chuck Clarke  
Chuck Clarke  
Regional Administrator, Region 10